

I. Using graduate attributes to link academic learning with the world of work

Leeds Beckett University, in consultation with staff, students and employers, has generated three graduate attributes (GAs) that need to be embedded in every undergraduate course. Our students' futures are likely to be increasingly shaped by the changing nature of the workplace and society, requiring them to *have a global outlook, be enterprising and be digitally literate* – these three GAs are all key elements in being an employable graduate.

All our students must be aware of how GAs are shaped through their course, how they add value to their degree and help them become effective citizens. Students need to be able to reflect upon them and articulate them to others, specifically prospective employers. Initially, a working group with cross-university representation devised guidance for staff on the embedding, delivery and visibility of each GA. This written guidance included practical examples of how to embed the GA into each level learning outcome so appropriate summative assessment could take place. The publication of the written guidance was supplemented by informal support workshops for staff as they designed their modules and courses. We sought real examples from staff in the form of their GA-focused assessment ideas and films explaining how they embedded the GAs in their module assessment.

The Centre for Learning and Teaching also interviewed students about their assessment experience and their workplace, volunteering and enterprise activity asking them to link their experience in the workplace to their academic course, highlighting how at least one GA had been addressed, delivered and executed in their course. From these interviews, we generated a student resource called the *Little Book of Graduate Attributes*. This resource contains diverse case studies and explores how students can evidence their GA-related activity to potential employers. In addition, examples of how the GAs might be visualised by students at each academic level are included. This *Little Book* also contains case studies from staff about how each GA is visible in their modules, outlining innovative assessments, real-world projects and workplace links with our students in our partner universities. A hard copy of the *Little Book* was issued to every new first year student and is accessible as a digital resource for all students.

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